



THE HONOR

SOCIETY OF

PHI KAPPA PHI

INDUCTION CEREMONY

Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi
Chapter 328

April 6, 2022
6:00 p.m.
Performing Arts Center



Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest, largest, and most selective all-discipline honor society. The Society's mission is to recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others.

2021-2022 CHAPTER OFFICERS

President..... Dr. Catherine Rudowsky

President Elect Dr. Steven Seidel

Vice President for Membership..... Ms. Jennifer Anderson

Vice President for Chapter Recognition..... Dr. Adrienne Platt

Treasurer..... Ms. Jaclyn Mahlmann

Public Relations Officer Ms. Leticia Bazan

Scholarships and Awards Officer..... Dr. Barbara Szczerbinska

Graduate Student Vice President Ms. Alexandra Janney



PROGRAM

Music..... Dino Mulic
Pianist

Welcome and IntroductionDr. Catherine Rudowsky
Dean of University Libraries

PKP Symbolism Dr. Steven Seidel
Professor, College of Liberal Arts

Introduction of Keynote Speaker Dr. Karen McCaleb
Dean, College of Graduate Studies

KeynoteMrs. Margaret Dechant
Associate Vice President for School and Community Relations

Graduate and Undergraduate Student InitiatesCollege Representatives
Ms. Jaclyn Mahlmann, College of Business
Dr. David Scott, College of Education and Human Development
Dr. Diana Sipes, College of Liberal Arts
Dr. Bunny Forgione, College of Nursing and Health Sciences
Dr. Barbara Szczerbinska, College of Science and Engineering

Faculty, Staff and Community Initiates..... Dr. Steven Seidel
Professor, College of Liberal Arts

Closing Remarks Dr. Catherine Rudowsky
Dean of University Libraries

Please Silence All Electronic Devices

Faculty, Staff and Community Initiates

Dr. Hassan A. Aziz
Jaime N. Barrera
Nancy L. Beauchamp
Dr. Shawnrece D. Campbell
Dr. Lea-Der Chen
Margaret Dechant
Dr. Margaret M. Galvez
Dr. Randall Harris
Dr. Laura Monahan
Dr. Frank J. Spaniol
Dr. Corinne M. Valadez
Sophia Vining

Graduate and Undergraduate Student Initiates

College of Business

Fernando Aguilera
Chance D. Bernal
Zachary G. Arciniega-Alva
Kerri Blazej
Madison Brown
Christopher S. Catterall
Yeying Chen
Teala R. Clay
Ashtyn Lauren Conway
Steve Ktaili
Michael A. Liles
Jayson Lowry
Kristina G. Lucero
Micah McDaniel
Julie C. Quick
Dr. Carmen E. Roberts
Denis A. Silva
Dion Solorio
Elizabeth A. Van Horn
Kevin Veir
Amy Wilson

College of Education and Human Development

Craig Brashears
Dr. Leah A. Bryars
Christina L. Carrillo

Bascolyne Day
August M. Garcia
Renée Johnson
Ericka M. Ledesma
Maria L. Medina
Jessica V. Tullos

College of Liberal Arts

Mary Mahan
Benjamin A. Tudor

College of Nursing and Health Sciences

Marlowe A. Driscoll
Morgan T. Gawlik Reyes
Anh Khoa Hoang
Tuyen Thi Nguyen
Vanida Quijas
Jenna F. Wood
Lisa Laumakis

College of Science and Engineering

Stephen Andre Henry

Fellowships and Awards

FELLOWSHIPS

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi currently awards 54 Fellowships of \$8,500 each, six at \$20,000 each, and two at \$35,000 each to members entering the first year of graduate or professional study. Each active Phi Kappa Phi chapter may select one candidate from among its local applicants to compete for the Society-wide awards.

DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi annually awards ten Dissertation Fellowships of \$10,000 each to active members who are doctoral candidates and are completing dissertations.

STUDY ABROAD GRANTS

Phi Kappa Phi Study Abroad Grants are designed to help support undergraduates as they seek knowledge and experience in their academic fields by studying abroad. One hundred twenty-five \$1,000 grants are awarded each year.

LOVE OF LEARNING AWARDS

Love of Learning Awards help fund post-baccalaureate professional development for active Phi Kappa Phi members to include (but not be limited to): Graduate or professional studies, doctoral dissertations, continuing education, career development, travel related to teaching/research/learning, etc. Two hundred awards, at \$500 each, are distributed each year.

LITERACY GRANTS

Literacy Grants of up to \$2,500 each are available to Phi Kappa Phi chapters and individual members to fund ongoing literacy projects or to create new initiatives.

PHI KAPPA PHI SCHOLAR & ARTIST AWARDS

Honors individuals who demonstrate the ideals of the Society through their activities, achievements, and scholarship. Each awardee receives a \$1,000 honorarium, a one-year membership and a recognition certificate.

PHI KAPPA PHI DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Distributed every biennium of \$1,000 to an active member who has provided sustained, non-compensated volunteer service to others beyond the realm of academia.

Margaret Dechant



Margaret Dechant is the Associate Vice President for School and Community Relations at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, where she has dedicated more than 35 years of her life to ensuring every student gets the best education the University can provide. Margaret has held several key positions during her tenure at the University, focusing on serving all students.

Margaret began her career at the University in 1987 at a then, Corpus Christi State University. Her first job was in the Financial Assistance Office as a Scholarship and Work Study Advisor. During that time, Margaret's passion for assisting students only intensified, and she was then asked to become an Admissions Recruiter counseling prospective student. Soon thereafter, she was promoted to Director of Admissions, a position she held during two pivotal moments in the University's history including the University's name change in 1993 to Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, and the University's transition from an upper-level University to a 4- year University in 1994. One of the proudest moments in her career was the admittance and ushering in of the 1st freshman class of 404 students in 1994.

Margaret's role as Director of Admissions grew as she was later promoted once again to Director of Admissions and University Registrar in 1999.

In 2006, she became the first Hispanic female to hold the position of Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management.

In November 2018, Margaret continued her streak of firsts, and was promoted to Associate Vice President for School and Community Relations. Not only is she the first Hispanic female to hold the position, but she is the first person EVER to hold this position at the University.

Margaret has a Bachelor of Arts degree with honors from the University of Texas at Austin and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Corpus Christi State University.

She has served as President for the following organizations including the Texas Association of Collegiate Registrar's and Admissions Officers, the South Texas Association of Collegiate Registrar's and Admissions Officers, and the Nueces County Together Board. She served as Chair of the ApplyTexas Advisory Board with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and was also a member and chair of many other educational and community boards and organizations both locally and statewide. She was selected by the current Mayor of Corpus Christi, Texas to serve on the Mayor's Transition Team. Currently, she serves on the Education to Employment Board and the Franklin Lindsay Student Aid Fund Board, the Mayor's Food Band Task Force, and the City of Corpus Christi's Environmental Task Force.

Margaret was also honored to receive the Y Women in Careers Award in 2005; and the Student Engagement and Success Rising Tide Award for Service Excellence in 2021. Margaret is a proud 5th generation Corpus Christian. Margaret has dedicated her life, making it her life's mission, to serve all students.

Phi Kappa Phi Oath

**In response to the honor bestowed on me
by my election to Phi Kappa Phi,
I shall continue to uphold
the motto of Phi Kappa Phi:
“Let the Love of Learning Rule Humanity.”**

Phi Kappa Phi Motto

Greek

Philosophía Krateítō Phōtōn

English

Let the love of learning rule humanity



TAMUCC Chapter Website:
tamucc.edu/grad-college/pkp

Society Website:
www.PhiKappaPhi.org

Ceremony Live Stream

